

## **ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Agenda –** Weds., January 10, 7:30PM, Selectmen's Hearing Rm, Town Hall

Present: Ed, Mary Ellen, Susan, Eric, Mara, Steve, Tim. Visitors: Brian Turnbaugh, Keith helping with tree mgmt plan, Rich Sans, Rachael Stark,

1. **7:35 – 7:40 Approve December meeting minutes** - Approved
2. **7:40 – 8:00 DPW Tree Department Update (Tim)**
  - General update
    - A. Tree City USA application sent off to DCR for approval
    - B. 80 planting requests in the web Q/A to date.
  - Tree hearing(s)
    - A. None scheuled
    - B. 8 Higgins Road at BoS meeting, BoS did not take Warden's recommendation to prune the tree instead of take down. BoS decision, lead by Clarissa Rowe, was 1. Norway Maple, take it down 2. Child of resident was fearful of tree near bedroom window. ATC concerned BoS did not take Warden's advice.....
  - Progress with town GIS for tree mgmt added / subtracted to 2017 inventory – GIS coordinator Adam Kurowski is building tree inventory into Town's GIS systems – Tim is meeting with Adam again January 16<sup>th</sup> for review of system so far (expects to be 80% complete!).
  - No progress yet with increased fee for Ch 87. Mike R still reviewing
  - Feedback from meeting with Planning department – Tim discussed process for public tree removal, yet restoring SpyPond shoreline never came up. Tim will follow up with Planning to see if more info/news.
3. **8:00 – 8:10 Arlington Community Tree Canopy Program – (John/Mary Ellen)**
  - Vote needed to spend funds for Spring 2018 - **Vote taken, and agreed** to spend up to \$1500 for buying 50 trees for the Program. Committee hesitant on choosing a Pin Oak. Tim suggested magnolia, sourwood instead. ATC will follow up with NE Nurseries to inquire about other species.
  - Subcommittee needed: ATC members needed to help advertise, pick up checks, and follow truck on day(s) of delivery. A subcommittee will be formed next month.
4. **8:10 – 8:15 Tree Preservation Bylaw fee increase (Susan/Mary Ellen)**
  - Amend the article - reflect the actual cost, etc., hard to tie it to the Towns Ch 87 fee, when there isnt a 'process' for setting them. – deadline closes January 26<sup>th</sup> for warrant submission. Town Counsel is working with Susan to draft up the warrant. Details of of how fee is set will be determined in the coming months.
5. **8:15 – 8:20 Publicity (Eliza)**
  - Vision 2020 Questions submitted – copy distributed to ATC
  - Facebook, Googlegroups – Discussed how Facebook posts need to be increased. Visitor questioned why we don't use Arlington List more – as 10% of Town is following
  - Inventory celebration and BU professor has agreed to come present her research. Need an ATC lead for this event – Can we piggy back on another

event? ATC was less interested in doing this. Seems long after the summer, might it be too late now.

**6. 8:20 – 8:40 Inventory/Management Plan update (John/Mara, Eliza/Mary Ellen) – Arbor Day is the goal for the end of the Plan**

- No Mgmt Plan document updates since December meeting; waiting to hear input from Mike/Tim. Tim will send email to ATC when meeting happens with Mike.
- Committee agreement on scope of Plan – members brought up Master Plan should be consulted when putting together the Tree Mgmt Plan. Committee was encouraged to read the current draft – available on dropbox
- BoS meeting presentation – feedback? Other outreach? Not discussed
- Request data from Intern in format for chart/graph creation in Excel, for ATC to keep/maintain/use – not discussed

**7. 8:40 – 8:55 New Business**

- Correspondence - none
- Other – EcoFest March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Chestnut seeds application given to Keith (visitor) who will fill out and share with ATC gmail when seeds arrive.
- Steve will be following up with Town regarding method for posting projects in town where a tree plan has been filed
- There is a startup regional Tree Groups including Cambridge and Watertown, that wants us to participate in regional issues. John is requested to send more info

**8. 8:55 – 9:00 ATC Housekeeping (Eliza/Mary Ellen)**

- Committee Roles and Responsibilities (Chair terms, minutes, etc), - not discussed
- Town Committee – what it means, protocol for speaking/writing on behalf of ATC
- New member push – visitors requested Gmail account to follow up for new member info.

**Next meeting:** Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, February 14